

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 114008 TOSEC 040321  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: NEA:EABINGTON

APPROVED BY: NEA:EABINGTON

S/S-O SSTEINER

-----181649Z 064275 /47

O 181547Z MAY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114008 TOSEC 040321

EXDIS FOR ATHERTON

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO TEL AVIV SINAI FROM CAIRO  
DTD 16 MAY 1977 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 8177

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (STONE, RICHARD)

SUBJ: CODEL STONE: REQUEST TO TRAVEL FROM CAIRO TO TEL AVIV  
VIA SFM

REF STATE 108051 (NOTAL)

1. I TALKED TO FAHMY FRIDAY EVENING ABOUT CODEL STONE'S  
INTEREST IN TRAVELLING FROM CAIRO TO TEL AVIV VIA SFM. FAHMY  
WAS FORCEFULLY NEGATIVE. SFM, HE STATED, IS FOR EARLY WARNING  
PURPOSES: IT IS NOT INTENDED FACILITATE OPEN BRIDGES DESIRES  
OF ISRAELI GOVT. SFM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SUCH POLITICAL MATTERS.  
THE SEN, FAHMY CONTENTED, DOUBTLESS WISHES TO BE ABLE TO SAY IN  
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TEL AVIV THAT HE WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN WHO HAD TRANSITED THAT  
WAY AND HAD THEREBY FURTHERED THE OPEN BRIDGES OBJECTIVE.  
HOWEVER MUCH RESPECT HE HAS FOR SEN STONE, WHOM HE HAD MET  
IN WASHINGTON, FAHMY INSISTED THAT GOE CANNOT AGREE TO ALLOW  
SUCH DIRECT TRANSIT IN EITHER DIRECTION.

2. I POINTED OUT TO FAHMY THAT SEN STONE HAD WORKED

VIGOROUSLY FOR SENATE APPROVAL FOR CREATION SFM. THE SENATOR WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO DELIVER FIRST-HAND REPORT OF SFM'S SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS. MOREOVER, AS FAHMY CERTAINLY KNEW, THE SENATOR HAS BEEN STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF CURRENT HIGH LEVEL OF ECONOMIC AID TO EGYPT. I ASKED THAT FAHMY RECONSIDER MATTER IN THE LIGHT OF ALL OF THESE FACTORS.

3. FAHMY REMAINED ADAMANTLY NEGATIVE. WHILE HE APPRECIATED SENATOR'S SUPPORT FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT, FAHMY INSISTED THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH POLITICAL ASPECTS OF ARAB/ISRAELI ISSUE. THE SENATOR IS OF COURSE WELCOME TO VISIT SFM FROM EGYPT. IF HE DOES SO, GOE MUST INSIST THAT HE RETURN THROUGH CAIRO. ALLUDING TO THE FACT THAT SEN STONE HAD SUPPORTED SFM CONCEPT, FAHMY NOTED THAT SFM WAS AS MUCH AND PERHAPS MORE IN ISRAELI AS IN ARAB INTERESTS. SFM WAS AFTER ALL PERES' SOLE CONTRIBUTION TO SINAI II. SFM, HE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED, IS FOR EARLY WARNING PURPOSES: NOT FOR OPEN BRIDGES.

3. I POINTED OUT TO FAHMY THAT THE SENATOR WOULD LIKE TO VISIT SFM AND THAT TRANSIT FROM THERE TO TEL AVIV WOULD BE MUCH MORE CONVENIENT THAN HAVING TO COME BACK THROUGH CAIRO. WHILE RECOGNIZING GOE CONCERN, I URGED THAT FAHMY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THIS SIMPLE CONVENIENCE FACTOR AND MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO ITS POLICY IN THE CASE OF THE SENATOR AND HIS PARTY. FAHMY WOULD HAVE NONE OF IT. HE RECOGNIZED CONVENIENCE ASPECT, BUT INSISTED THAT GOE WILL NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AGREE TO USE OF SFM AS A GATEWAY TO ISRAEL. SFM'S SOLE FUNCTION IS MILITARY WARNING, NOT TRANSIT OF TOURISTS. WE WENT ROUND AND ROUND ON THIS FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES, BUT FAHMY WOULD NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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BUDGE.

4. COMMENT: HAVE DONE THE BEST I CAN TO GET GOE AGREEMENT TO DIRECT TRANSIT, BUT RESULTS WERE PREDICTABLE. GOE HAS STRONG VIEWS ABOUT ISRAELI DEMAND FOR OPEN BRIDGES AND IS INSISTENT THAT SFM NOT BE ALLOWED TO SERVE THIS PURPOSE. I REGRET GOE POSITION, BUT THERE IT IS. PLEASE INFORM SEN STONE OF FAHMY'S REACTION. IF HE STILL WISHES VISIT SFM, WE COULD PROBABLY ARRANGE ROUND TRIP FROM CAIRO ON FRIDAY, JUNE 3. ALTERNATIVELY, THE SENATOR MAY PREFER TO VISIT IT FROM ISRAEL.

EILTS  
UNQTE CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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